

**CLAIMS**

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1. (Currently Amended) A composition for treating symptoms and conditions associated with aging, the composition including an active ingredient comprising:

one of

an aqueous extract of buckwheat seed,

a fractionation product of an aqueous extract of buckwheat seed, and

a combination of said aqueous extract of buckwheat seed and said fractionation product of said aqueous extract of buckwheat seed.

wherein the active ingredient contains containing polymers having 4 to 9 monomer units having a molecular weight of from about 1,000 to about 10,000,

wherein the composition activates a function of the brain's activity.

2. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the aqueous extract of buckwheat seed has a molecular weight of about 1500 or more.

3. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by dementia.

4. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by dementia.

5. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by Alzheimer's syndrome.

6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by Alzheimer's syndrome.

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7. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for inhibiting lipid peroxide.

8. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for inhibiting lipid peroxide.

9. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for treating hyperlipemia.

10. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for treating hyperlipemia.

11. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering triacylglycerol levels.

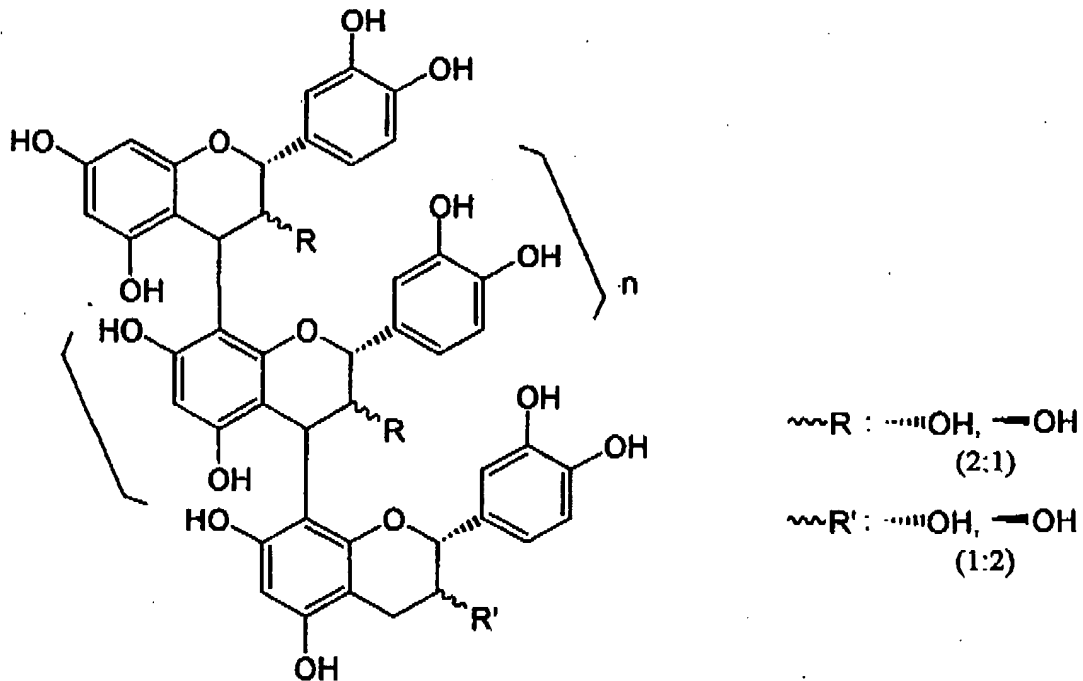
12. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering triacylglycerol levels.

13. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering cholesterol levels.

14. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering cholesterol levels.

15. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer having four to nine monomer units comprises a catechin-epicatechin polymer having four to nine monomer units.

16. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer having four to nine monomer units comprises a catechin-epicatechin polymer of the formula:



wherein n has a value of from 2 to 7.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein n has a value of 3.
18. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein n has a value of 5.
19. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein n has a value of 7.
20. (Original) The composition of claim 2 wherein the catechin-epicatechin polymer comprises an catechin-epicatechin oligomer.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of improving the memory of animals comprising administering to said animals an effective amount of a composition having an active ingredient comprising:

one of

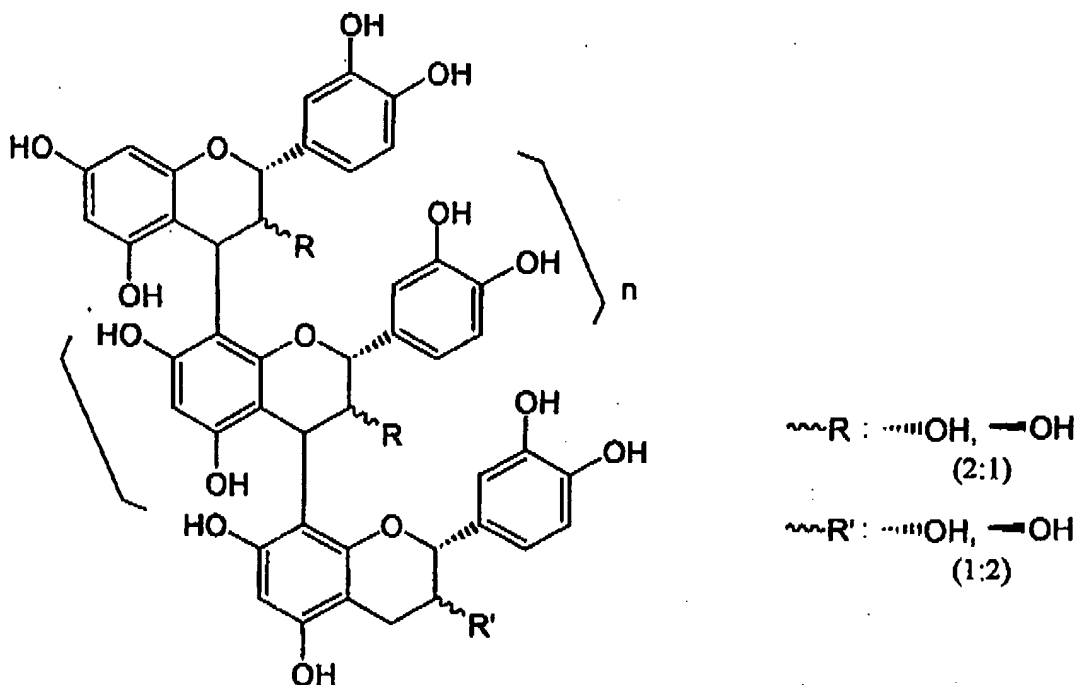
an aqueous extract of buckwheat seed,

a fractionation product of an aqueous extract of buckwheat seed, and

a combination of said aqueous extract of buckwheat seed and said fractionation product of said aqueous extract of buckwheat seed,

wherein the active ingredient contains polymers having 4 to 9 monomer units having a molecular weight of from about 1,000 to about 10,000, and

wherein the polymers having 4 to 9 monomer units comprises a catechin-epicatechin polymer compound of the formula:



wherein  $n$  has a value of from 2 to 7.